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with narrowly triangular or lanceolate segments: scapes glabrous or very sparingly pubescent above, bearing small heads scarcely an inch across: involucral bracts glaucous, the outer lanceolate, 3–5 lines long, horizontally spreading or sub-erect, one or two with a corniculate appendage below the tip; the inner bracts linear, 6–9 lines long, nearly all with a corniculate appendage ½ line or so below the whitish tip: flowers 70–80, sulphur-yellow, the outer ligules conspicuously purplish without: achenes spindle shaped, bright red or reddish brown, the body 1½ lines long, sharply muricate above, gradually contracted to a narrowly-conical apex ¾ line long; the filiform beak barely twice the length of the achene, and with the pappus dirty white: fruiting receptacle rarely more than ¼ inch broad.—In dry or rocky places, Hartford, Maine, 1886 (J. C. Parlin); northwestern Hancock county, Maine, June, 1892 (C. G. Atkins); Waverly, Mass., May, 1894 (N. T. Kidder and others); Wilton, Maine, August, 1894 (M. L. Fernald); Lexington and Winchester, Mass., May, 1895 (E. F. Williams, A. S. Higgins and M. L. Fernald); Kennebunkport, Maine, May, 1895 (W. H. Manning and M. L. Fernald); and Cambridge, Mass.

The species seems well distinguished from *T. officinale*, which has larger and less cut leaves; larger, orange-yellow heads, with many more flowers (the specimens examined show from 170–190 in a head); involucral bracts larger, not glaucous, the outer conspicuously reflexed, and rarely with corniculate appendages; receptacle broader; achenes broader, less tapering above, olive green or greenish brown; the beak two or three times as long as the achene, and the pappus a purer white.—MERRITT LYNDON FERNALD, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Gilbreth Botanical Collection.—One of the most valuable and interesting gifts which have recently been presented to Radcliffe College is that of Mrs. Martha Bunker Gilbreth of Brookline, consisting of the botanical collections made by her daughter, Miss Mary E. Gilbreth, who died not long since. On the occasion of the formal presentation of the gift to the college—an occasion which drew together a large number of instructors, and representatives of the College Club, Idler Club, Home and Field Club, and other societies of which Miss Gilbreth was a member when she was a student in the college—Professor George L. Goodale, who made the presentation address, described the extent and value of Miss Gilbreth's collection and the relation which part of it bears to the great scientific problems of the time, and the light it throws upon them, prefacing his statement with a brief account of her life.

The part of her collection specially referred to by Professor Goodale is that illustrating the dissemination of plants by means of their seeds. . . .

The materials of the collection, which were gathered during the last ten or twelve years of Miss Gilbreth's life, for her own use as a student and teacher, are of three kinds: 1. Pressed specimens for an herbarium; 2. Material preserved in alcohol for microscopic study; 3. Dried specimens of fruits and seeds preserved in boxes to illustrate the dissemination of plants. . . .

The collection to illustrate the dissemination of plants is of special importance and, in fact, is thought to be unique in its design and extent among American botanical collections. The specimens of this collection have been placed in boxes of multiple sizes, arranged in trays of standard herbarium size and have been classified with reference to the agencies of dissemination as devised for: 1. Dissemination by gravitation; 2. Dissemination by water; 3. Dissemination by wind; 4. Dissemination by animals; and 5. Mechanical expulsion. Under each of these heads specimens are classified with reference to the device employed—as edible berry, hooked appendage, wing-like expansion, etc. Under each of these headings the special morphology of the part which serves the purpose is briefly stated, explaining what part of the plant is modified and in what way, to form the wing, hook or whatever the device may be.—Condensed from Boston *Transcript*, May 22, 1895.

Poisoning by shepherd's purse.—A case was reported to me recently by a competent and reliable physician, of severe poisoning of two children by eating the tops of shepherd's purse (*Bursa bursapastoris*). The effects were noticeable within half an hour and were so severe that the physician was called within two hours. He found the patients pale and exhausted; vomiting was frequent, the pulse very rapid and too feeble to be counted, breathing difficult; blood was vomited and one of the patients passed bloody urine.

Calcined magnesia and olive oil were administered, also whisky and digitalis. The symptoms continued severe for fifteen hours. Recovery followed. The children had been strong and healthy, and took nothing apparently that could have produced these symptoms except the shepherd's purse which they ate while going across the field to the place where their father was plowing.

I visited the locality on learning of the case and searched in the vicinity and over the immediate neighborhood for other plants that might have been taken by the children but could find nothing suspicious except very small quantities of Rhus radicans. I think it highly improbable that the children partook of this and besides they aver that they ate only the shepherd's purse.

A very few plants were found affected with albugose but the fungus